



## Wichita Police Department Policy Manual

Approved by:

Policy 530 - Animals

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Maintained by:  
Information Services

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530.01 City of Wichita Animal Control is responsible for:

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- A. picking up all injured, stray or abandoned animals [i.e., those left in a home or a pen when the owner has no intention of returning] and most vicious or dead ones.
  1. Animal Control will pick up a animal only when:
    - a. the owner is under arrest, and no responsible adult is available or able to take custody of the individual's animal; or
    - b. the animal is at large; or
    - c. a significant risk to public health or safety exists; and
    - d. a WPD member is standing by the scene, or is maintaining visual contact with the animal.
  2. Animal Control will not pick up a large, dead animal [such as a cow or horse]; however, if it is a traffic hazard, they will come out and move the carcass off of the roadway. To dispose of such an animal, the on-scene WPD member shall notify the 911 dispatcher.
- B. assisting WPD members in controlling large animals.
- C. answering and investigating all animal-bite incidents.

530.02 Members of the WPD who come in contact with an injured animal shall:

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- A. have the 911 dispatcher make the notification mandated by the WPD/Animal Control/Emergency Communications SOP on animal-related calls.
- B. stand by with the animal until Animal Control personnel arrive;
  1. If the animal dies before their arrival, promptly have SPIDER report the following information to Animal Control:
    - a. the exact location of the carcass [if it is in the street, move it to a highly visible location off the roadway]; and
    - b. the fact that an immediate response is no longer necessary.
  2. If visual contact with the animal is lost, promptly have SPIDER report the following information to Animal Control:
    - a. the location at which the animal was last seen; and
    - b. the fact that an immediate response is no longer necessary.
- C. Check 10-8.

530.03 If an officer determines that an animal needs to be destroyed, he/she shall comply with the WPD Use of Force Regulation 4.104 (C4).

530.04 When an officer is dispatched to a vicious dog call, the officer will ensure that Animal Control has been contacted. The officer will obtain a description of the dog, direction of travel, and ascertain if there are any injuries. If injuries are involved, the officer may request the assistance of Fire or EMS. The proper incident forms will be completed by the responding officer. A vicious dog is defined as a dog that is attacking or chasing (includes cornering/circling) a person or other domestic animal. This dog is a threat to their well being, not just a dog running at large.

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530.05 If the person is not in imminent danger, such as the dog is outside and the person is inside a building or house and no one else is in imminent danger (i.e. being attacked, chased, or cornered) then:

- A. If the incident occurred within the past three (3) hours, officers shall respond.
- B. If the incident occurred more than three (3) hours ago, the information will be broadcasted to officers in the area.